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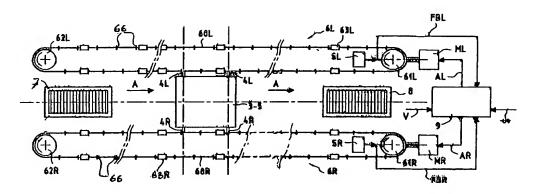
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[Suite sur la page suivante]

(54) Title: INSTALLATION FOR SEQUENTIALLY TRANSPORTING OBJECTS IN A GOODS HANDLING LINE, IN PARTICULAR FOR THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

(54) Titre: INSTALLATION DE TRANSPORT D'OBJETS EN SERIE DANS UNE CHAINE DE MANUTENTION, EN PAR-TICULIER POUR L'INDUSTRIE AUTOMOBILE



- (57) Abstract: In a preferred embodiment, the objects to be transported, in particular motor car body shells on sleds (3, 5) are carried suspended each by four independent pendular arms (4) with two symmetrical conveyors which travel through the installation under the control of synchronized drive means to pick up said objects in a loading station and transport them individually to an unloading station. In each conveyor, said pendular arms are secured to fixed positions distributed along a cable (60) which is driven by said drive means while being maintained tensioned on guide wheels (63) defining a predetermined conveying circuit. The loads suspended via the pendular arms are solely carried by said cable between said guide wheels, said cable thus constituting both tractive and carrier means for said objects. In practice, each conveyor comprises two parallel cables and the pendulums are secured hanging therebetween.
- (57) Abrégé: Dans une réalisation préférée, les objets à transporter, notamment des caisses d'automobiles sur luges (3, 5), sont véhiculés suspendus chacun par quatre bras pendulaires indépendants (4) à deux convoyeurs symétriques qui parcourent l'installation sous la commande de moyens d'entraînement synchronisés pour prendre en charge lesdits objets dans un poste de chargement et les transporter individuellement jusqu'à un poste de déchargement. Dans chaque convoyeur, lesdits bras pendulaires sont accrochés en des positions fixes réparties le long d'un câble (60) qui est mû par

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[Suite sur la page suivante]

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lesdits moyens d'entraînement tandis qu'il est maintenu tendu sur des roues de guidage (63) définissant un circuit de convoyage prédéterminé. Les charges suspendues par l'intermédiaire des bras pendulaires sont -exclusivement portées par ledit câble entre lesdites roues de guidage, ledit câble constituant ainsi des moyens à la fois tracteurs et porteurs pour lesdits objets. En pratique, chaque convoyeur comporte deux câbles parallèles et les pendules sont accrochés pendants entre eux.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Application No 03/00270

Patent family members are listed in annex.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

1

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B62D B65G B61B B07B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included. In the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

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Special categories of cited documents: A* document defining the general state of the an which is not considered to be of particular relevance E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	To later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in comflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention. "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone. "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search 24 June 2003	Date of mailing of the International search report 01/07/2003
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Palent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL ~ 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Deraymaeker, D

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